

SN 10/824,691

Docket No. S-102,389

In Response to Office Action dated September 20, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

From page 7, line 12 through page 8, line 3, please amend the specification as follows:

EXAMPLE 2

The compact of entry 5 was synthesized as follows. About 3 mm³ of ~~the ball-milled mixture described in Example 1~~ a ball milled mixture of a 2:1 molar ratio of graphite:hBN was placed into a platinum capsule. Using the anvil press of example 1, the encapsulated mixture was subjected to a pressure of about 15 GPa, and then sintered at a temperature of about 2100 K for about 5 minutes. The resulting bulk compact had a measured Vickers hardness was 50 GPa.

EXAMPLE 3

The compact of entry 8 was synthesized as follows. About 3 mm³ of ~~the ball-milled mixture described in Example 1~~ a ball milled mixture of a 2:1 molar ratio of graphite:hBN was placed into a platinum capsule. Using the anvil press of Example 1, the encapsulated mixture was subjected to a pressure of about 20 GPa, and then sintered at a temperature of about 2200 K for about 5 minutes. The resulting bulk compact of the invention was light yellowish in color, translucent, and had a measured Vickers hardness of 62 GPa.

EXAMPLE 4

The compact of entry 9 was synthesized as follows. About 3 mm³ of ~~the ball-milled mixture described in Example 1~~ a ball milled mixture of a 2:1 molar ratio of graphite:hBN was placed into a platinum capsule. Using the anvil press of Example 1, the encapsulated mixture was subjected to a pressure of about 25 GPa, and sintered at a temperature of about 2130 K for about 10 minutes. The resulting bulk compact of the invention was light yellow in color.

EXAMPLE 5

The compact of entry 10 was synthesized as follows. About 3 mm³ of ~~the ball-milled mixture described in Example 1~~ a ball milled mixture of a 2:1 molar ratio of graphite:hBN was placed into a platinum capsule. Using the anvil press of Example 1, the encapsulated mixture was subjected to a pressure of about 25 GPa, and sintered at

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a temperature of about 2300 K for about 60 minutes. The resulting bulk compact of the invention was light yellow in color.